

**For Immediate Release**

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**Proposed Training College Would Create New Jobs Downtown**

Mayor Michael B. Coleman is advancing an incentive plan to City Council that would bring 49 new jobs to Downtown Columbus. Southwestern College is proposing to expand into Columbus through the redevelopment and renovation of three floors of a five-story commercial building, comprising 26,000 square feet to be used as classroom and office space.

**"Along with Columbus State, Franklin, CCAD and Capital Law, Southwestern College will continue to grow our Downtown as not just a center for jobs and commerce, but also as a neighborhood for learning," Mayor Coleman said. "This project is within the Mile on High District, and these 49 new jobs will have a big impact on the continuing revitalization of our urban core."**

Southwestern College provides training in Health Services, Business IT and Spa & Cosmetology with locations in Cincinnati, Dayton, Toledo and Franklin, Ohio, as well as Florence, Kentucky. The Columbus facility would be located at 45 North Fourth Street. The administration is proposing to grant a 75 percent 10-year Enterprise Zone Tax Abatement to Southwestern College.

**"This announcement continues the momentum of job creation in the Downtown and specifically in the Mile on High District," said Andrew J. Ginther, chair of the Finance and Economic Development Committee. "The Enterprise Zone Tax Abatement is performance based, meaning the sooner the redevelopment and renovation occurs, the sooner the incentives to into effect."**

The project is expected to begin May 2010 with a scheduled time of completion for December 2010.